



## **NEWS RELEASE**

### **From Mayor Dean DePiero**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
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## **PARMA ICE RINK SHINES A LIGHT ON STATE OF THE ART IMPROVEMENTS**

**(PARMA)** – The City of Parma’s Michael A. Ries Ice Rink has undergone a second round of major improvements – this time modernizing its lighting system and purchasing a more fuel efficient ice resurfacing machine.

Gone are the rink’s mercury vapor lights that cast a yellow hue onto the ice surface. The new, high-intensity fluorescent lights have created a much brighter atmosphere at a lower cost – about two amps per light less than the mercury lights. The \$250,000 lighting project and repairs to the roof was made possible with state funds through the bi-annual Capital Budget.

“Our residents have noticed the difference and so have residents, hockey teams and figure skaters from outside the city,” said Parma Mayor Dean DePiero. “We’ve been hearing great things about the ice rink, and what’s good for area recreation is great for the community.”

“I think it’s outstanding,” added Parma Recreation Director Mickey Vittardi. “There’s no comparison – it’s like day and night! The rink looks and even feels better, thanks to our new ice resurfacing machine.”

The City of Parma has purchased a 1996 Olympia model ice-cutting machine, quicker and more fuel efficient than the 1973 Zamboni that it is replacing. The Olympia cost approximately \$45,000.

A year ago, the City of Parma spent nearly \$100,000 to replace the rink’s dasher boards and glass paneling surrounding the rink. The Parma Amateur Athletic Federation (PAFF) donated \$15,000 to help defray the building and rehabilitation costs while the Parma Hockey Association pitched-in more than \$10,000 in paint and supplies.

“The Parma ice rink has always been family-friendly and a family-oriented destination,” said Mayor DePiero. “This reinforces that attitude, making sure we stay ahead of the curve when it comes to keeping the rink in the excellent condition our residents have come to expect.”

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